

<b>Work Task C9:</b>	<b>Razorback Sucker Pen Rearing Tests</b>
<b>Partners:</b>	Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)
<b>Point of Contact:</b>	Tom Burke, LC-2300 (702) 293-8711
<b>Purpose:</b>	Assess utility of pen-rearing of razorback suckers in the Colorado River at Willow Beach Hatchery to increase rearing capability at the hatchery and to condition fish to Colorado River conditions before release.
<b>Conservation Measure:</b>	RASU3 and RASU4
<b>Long-term Goal:</b>	The LCR MSCP will rear and release over 1.2 million fish into the lower Colorado River. LCR MSCP will continuously seek for measures to improve both quantity and quality of the fish reared and released. This action offers such improvements.
<b>FY05 Estimate:</b>	Funding estimate for FY05 is \$62,000. This includes \$22,000 for netting and flotation materials (construction of pens); \$14,000 for floating docks and walkways with safety railings; \$8500 for underwater anchoring systems and navigational aids (buoys, lights); and \$17,500 for construction and installation (includes use of Reclamation's Dive Team).
<b>Project Description:</b>	Limited field studies to date indicate that conditioning of hatchery reared razorback suckers increases survival in the wild. This program will construct rearing pens in the river at Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery for the purposes of conditioning the fish prior to actual release, and to increase production capacity at the hatchery.